

But while we will make the most persuasive legal arguments available on the law and the facts, I must add that the most effective advocates for justice will always remain those little babies with Down syndrome and the parents who brought them bravely into this world. They will be the first to tell you that a person with Down syndrome isn't a burden. It isn't just a "thing," to quote the Icelandic eugenicists. These babies are persons. They are fearfully and wonderfully made. They are created equal in the eyes of and image of God, just like each and every one of us.

So let us fervently pray that one day soon, our laws will reflect this very basic truth and protect these innocent children.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### VOTE ON MOTION TO DISCHARGE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is on agreeing to the motion to discharge the nomination of Chiquita Brooks-LaSure from the Committee on Finance.

Mr. BROWN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

(Mr. VAN HOLLEN assumed the Chair.)

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 184 Ex.]

#### YEAS—51

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Peters
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Kaine	Rosen
Booker	Kelly	Sanders
Brown	King	Schatz
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Lujan	Sinema
Casey	Manchin	Smith
Collins	Markey	Stabenow
Coons	Menendez	Tester
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Moran	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Hassan	Padilla	Wyden

#### NAYS—48

Barrasso	Cornyn	Graham
Blackburn	Cotton	Grassley
Blunt	Cramer	Hagerty
Boozman	Crapo	Hawley
Braun	Cruz	Hoeven
Burr	Daines	Hyde-Smith
Capito	Ernst	Inhofe
Cassidy	Fischer	Johnson

Kennedy	Portman	Shelby
Lankford	Risch	Sullivan
Lee	Romney	Thune
Lummis	Rounds	Tillis
Marshall	Rubio	Toomey
McConnell	Sasse	Tuberville
Murkowski	Scott (FL)	Wicker
Paul	Scott (SC)	Young

#### NOT VOTING—1

Heinrich

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). Pursuant to S. Res. 27 and the motion to discharge having been agreed to, the nomination will be placed on the Executive Calendar.

The motion was agreed to.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 108, Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2021.

Charles E. Schumer, Margaret Wood Hassan, Tammy Duckworth, Jon Tester, John Hickenlooper, Tammy Baldwin, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Tina Smith, Cory A. Booker, Christopher Murphy, Debbie Stabenow, Richard Blumenthal, Sheldon Whitehouse, Chris Van Hollen, Benjamin L. Cardin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Alex Padilla.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2021, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

(Mr. HICKENLOOPER assumed the Chair.)

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have voted "nay."

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 68, nays 30, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 185 Ex.]

#### YEAS—68

Baldwin	Cantwell	Collins
Bennet	Capito	Coons
Blumenthal	Cardin	Cortez Masto
Blunt	Carper	Cramer
Booker	Casey	Duckworth
Brown	Cassidy	Durbin

Ernst	Markey	Schatz
Feinstein	McConnell	Schumer
Gillibrand	Menendez	Shaheen
Graham	Merkley	Sinema
Grassley	Moran	Smith
Hassan	Murkowski	Stabenow
Hickenlooper	Murphy	Sullivan
Hirono	Murray	Tester
Hoeven	Ossoff	Thune
Johnson	Padilla	Toomey
Kaine	Peters	Van Hollen
Kelly	Portman	Warner
King	Reed	Warnock
Klobuchar	Romney	Warren
Leahy	Rosen	Whitehouse
Lujan	Rounds	Wyden
Manchin	Sanders	

#### NAYS—30

Barrasso	Fischer	Paul
Blackburn	Hagerty	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Rubio
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Burr	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Shelby
Crapo	Lee	Tillis
Cruz	Lummis	Tuberville
Daines	Marshall	Wicker

#### NOT VOTING—2

Heinrich Young

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. On this vote, the yeas are 68, the nays are 30.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Louisiana.

#### IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH ACCESS FOR STUDENTS ACT

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I am going to talk for a few minutes about mental health for our kids. I think many Americans have known and, unfortunately, some Americans have loved some of our fellow citizens who suffer with depression and anxiety and thoughts of suicide. It is a particular problem for our young people. CDC reports that one in four young Americans have actually considered suicide, and, in fact, the second leading cause of death for young people is suicide.

I am sure there are a lot of reasons for this. I think it is harder to be a young person today. Many of our kids see things that those of us who are older didn't have to deal with until we were adults—drugs, of course; alcohol; also, social media. You can still find kindness in America, but unfortunately you have to go offline to do it.

Some of our young people—many of our young people—just need someone to talk to. Some of them, when their anxiety and their depression is acute, need medical treatment, and this bill will simply provide a mechanism for our young people to receive it.

The bill, as I said, is called the Improving Mental Health Access for Students Act. It would provide that schools—our universities—be required to print phone numbers for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, the Crisis Text Line, and a campus mental health center or program on the student ID cards.

This bill would not require our schools to tear up current ID cards. It would be phased in. And if a school doesn't use an ID card, they don't have to start using an ID card. My bill

would simply require that the schools put the information on their website.

This bill passed unanimously by UC in our last Congress, but, unfortunately, the House ran out of time to take it up.

Toward that end, Mr. President, as if in legislative session, I am going to ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 1585, introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1585) to add suicide prevention resources to school identification cards.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. If there is no further debate on the bill, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 1585) was passed as follows:

S. 1585

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Improving Mental Health Access for Students Act”.

#### SEC. 2. ADDING SUICIDE PREVENTION CONTACT INFORMATION TO SCHOOL IDENTIFICATION CARDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 487(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(30)(A) In the case of an institution that creates and distributes identification cards for students at any time after the date of enactment of this paragraph, such institution shall include phone contact information on each such card for the following organizations:

“(i) The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

“(ii) Crisis Text Line.

“(iii) A campus mental health center or program, as determined by the institution.

“(B) In the case of an institution that does not create and distribute identification cards for students at any time after the date of enactment of this paragraph, such institution shall publish the suicide prevention contact information specified in subparagraph (A) on the website of such institution.

“(C) If an organization in clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) ceases to exist, the Secretary may designate a different entity with a similar purpose to be included on the identification card.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect beginning on the day that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KENNEDY. I yield the floor.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2021.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Michigan.

#### U.S. POSTAL SERVICE NOMINATIONS

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise in support of the President's nominees to serve on the U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors. I would like to thank Senator PORTMAN for working with me to swiftly advance the nominations of Ron Stroman, Amber McReynolds, and Anton Hajjar to fill the remaining vacancies on the Postal Service Board of Governors.

Today, we are voting on the nominations of Mr. Stroman and Ms. McReynolds, and I expect to take up Mr. Hajjar's nomination soon.

The Board of Governors is an independent, bipartisan body that provides leadership, strategic vision, and oversight of the U.S. Postal Service—one of the oldest and most trusted American institutions.

For nearly 250 years, the Postal Service has served communities all across our Nation. Countless Americans rely on the Postal Service to deliver critical medications and financial documents, to run their small businesses, to cast their ballots, to stay connected with family, and so much more.

But the Postal Service continues to face enormous challenges. From longstanding financial constraints to the impacts of the ongoing pandemic, the Postal Service has struggled to provide timely delivery and plan for its future.

Our dedicated postal workers have shown time and again that they can get the job done when they are given the right tools and measures. The Board of Governors will be responsible for guiding the Postal Service through its current challenges and working with Congress to ensure that Americans can rely on the Postal Service to deliver their mail each and every day.

Mr. Stroman, Ms. McReynolds, and Mr. Hajjar are each highly qualified to serve as Governors. They are all accomplished leaders who bring diverse experiences and backgrounds that are currently not represented on the Board.

Most importantly, they each understand the public service mission of the Postal Service and are committed to improving and preserving reliable delivery service for Americans all across our country.

Ron Stroman is a lifelong public servant who served as Deputy Postmaster General for nearly 10 years. He has a deep operational knowledge of the Postal Service and an extensive

record of working across the aisle on postal issues.

Amber McReynolds is the chief executive of the nonpartisan, nonprofit National Vote at Home Institute and a former senior local government official for Denver, CO. She is a proven leader who drives innovation and understands how the Postal Service impacts both State and local governments.

Anton Hajjar is an accomplished lawyer who understands the unique challenges faced by the Postal Service's large and diverse workforce. He has worked extensively in labor-management relations, including forging compromises between Postal Service workers and management. And prior to his decades of legal experience, as a high school student he spent a summer as a substitute letter carrier.

Each of these nominees will each bring a fresh perspective to the Board, and I look forward to working with them to strengthen this vital public service for years to come.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting each of these highly qualified nominees to serve as Governors of the U.S. Postal Service.

I yield.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Iowa.

#### AMERICAN FAMILIES PLAN

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, Washington has been on a dizzying spending spree over the past couple of months, passing trillion-dollar bills right and left. It is nearly impossible to calculate the total cost. And now, President Biden and the Democrats in Congress are proposing several trillion dollars in even more spending.

With tax day approaching on May 17, the time has come to pay the bills for all of these government giveaways. And guess who will be forced to pay for it? Well, of course, it is the American people.

Right now, Democrats are hoping to finance their ongoing spending splurge by increasing taxes on hard-working Americans across this country. One of the key tax hikes included in the President's so-called American Families Plan would hit farm families especially hard.

The Biden proposal would eliminate a protection that allows Iowa farm families to pass down their assets to the next generation without a tax penalty. The Farm Bureau says the end result would be a significant tax increase on our farmers and ranchers.

This is the last thing the ag sector needs as they continue on their economic recovery. While hiking taxes on our farmers who help feed and fuel our Nation every single day, my Democratic colleagues also want to give a tax break to high-income coastal elites.

And don't just take my word for it. Congresswoman ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ, the leader of the socialist squad in the House, says the Democrats' proposal to repeal the cap on the State and local tax deduction is “a gift